

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

Most - 343-5634

For Release - April 1, 1965

ALBERT RISSMAN, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE REALTY CHIEF, RETIRES

Albert J. Rissman, who has directed acquisition of land for National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries for the past eight years, has retired, the Department of the Interior announced.

Rissman, 60, worked more than 35 years in the program to obtain areas needed for the protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife resources.

In 1957 Rissman was appointed chief of the Division of Realty in Interior's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. In this capacity he also handled land and real estate matters for the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries.

Since 1957 he has served as Secretary of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission which approves the expenditure of more than \$5 million received annually from the sale of Duck Stamps. The funds are used for acquisition of areas needed for migratory birds.

The Commission is made up of two U. S. Senators, two members of the House of Representatives, and the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce and Interior.

Under an accelerated wetlands acquisition program made possible by a loan from Congress, to be repaid from Duck Stamp receipts, Rissman's

realty teams have added 160,000 acres to the National Wildlife Refuge System and 370,000 acres under easement for waterfowl production areas.

Rissman is a native of Tonawanda, New York, and a forestry graduate of Cornell University. He is married to the former Lois Jean Rouse of Monongahela, Pennsylvania. They live in Falls Church, Virginia.

x x x

2/26/65